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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

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SUBJECT Ales Bebler Replaces Joza Vilfan
as Head of Yugoslav Delegation

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1. The replacement of Joza Vilfan by Ales Bebler as head of the Yugoslav Delegation to the United Nations Assembly allegedly resulted from action taken by the diplomatic UDB on charges that Vilfan had bourgeois tendencies, that he has acquired wealth in the United States, and that he was connected with reactionary circles.
2. In the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry it was believed that Vilfan was not in accord with Sava Kosanovic who, although favorably looked upon by the United States, is disliked by both Edward Kardelj and Bebler. The change will enable Bebler to control Kosanovic, while Kardelj will be able to observe Vilfan more closely. Furthermore, the change will also separate Kardelj and Bebler, who are on bad terms.
3. During a recent session of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party, the Serb element protested Slovene predominance (Kardelj, Vilfan, and Bebler) in the conduct of Yugoslavia's foreign policy.
4. The Yugoslav Propaganda Ministry was recently requested by Kardelj to prohibit the publication of all official Yugoslav Government attacks on "Western imperialism" in general, and on the United States in particular.

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No Change In Class.

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